

Health and Human Services and Education. As you know, when we talked the week before last, you expected to be able to identify those offsets by last Tuesday. When I caught up with you on Friday, you thought the offsets could at least be identified by today.

As I had mentioned to you, a Subcommittee hearing has been scheduled for February 21 to hear from Secretary Reich, Secretary Shalala and Secretary Riley to try to structure an appropriations bill which the President would sign with the additional funding.

I believe it is advisable to defer that hearing until we can identify the amount of the additional funding and the offsets so that we can pass a bill in advance of the March 15 expiration of the continuing resolution.

As I have said on many occasions, I think it is very important that we move ahead on these preliminary steps forthwith because I anticipate many controversial issues in the Senate floor debate and then a House-Senate conference which could take considerable time.

As I mentioned to you when we talked Friday afternoon, I had hoped to see you in Wilkes-Barre with the Presidential party, but I understood you had to leave in advance of that stop.

At Wilkes-Barre, I discussed with President Clinton the urgency of identifying these offsets. The President said he had already discussed the offsets with you and agreed on the importance of moving ahead promptly to identify additional funding for these three important departments.

As soon as you can advise me on the additional funding and the offsets, we shall move ahead to reschedule the hearing.

Sincerely,

ARLEN SPECTER.

Mr. SPECTER. In the absence of any other Senator on the floor, Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1996

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until the hour of 11 a.m. on Thursday, February 29, and that immediately following the prayer, the Journal of the proceedings be deemed approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and that there be a period for morning business until the hour of 12 noon, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator MURKOWSKI for 15 minutes, Senator DORGAN for 20 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO REPORT LEGISLATION REGARD- ING SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON WHITEWATER

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on

Rules have until the hour of 5 p.m. today in order to report legislation regarding the special committee on Whitewater.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:01 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2196) to amend the Stevenson-Wydler technology cooperative research and development agreements, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 1494. An act to provide an extension for fiscal year 1996 for certain programs administered by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Secretary of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2196. An act to amend the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 with respect to inventions made under cooperative research and development agreements, and for other purposes.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 520

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. FAIRCLOTH] was added as a cosponsor of S. 520, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit for adoption expenses.

S. 607

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 607, a bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to clarify the liability of certain recycling transactions, and for other purposes.

S. 722

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 722, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restructure and replace the income tax system of the United States to meet national priorities, and for other purposes.

S. 774

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. INHOFE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 774, a bill to place restrictions on the promotion by the Department of Labor and other Federal agencies and instrumentalities of economically targeted investments in connection with employee benefit plans.

S. 837

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. WELLSTONE], the Senator from

Georgia [Mr. NUNN], the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. LAUTENBERG], and the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS] were added as cosponsors of S. 837, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of James Madison.

SENATE RESOLUTION 215

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Michigan [Mr. ABRAHAM] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 215, a resolution to designate June 19, 1996, as "National Baseball Day."

SENATE RESOLUTION 224

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO, the name of the Senator from Missouri [Mr. BOND] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 224, a resolution to designate September 23, 1996, as "National Baseball Heritage Day."

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. NUNN, Mr. DODD, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. FRIST):

S. Res. 226. A resolution to proclaim the week of October 13 through October 19, 1996, as "National Character Counts Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. D'AMATO:

S. Res. 227. An original resolution to authorize the use of additional funds for salaries and expenses of the Special Committee to Investigate Whitewater Development Corporation and Related Matters, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SENATE RESOLUTION 226—REL- ATIVE TO NATIONAL CHAR- ACTER COUNTS WEEK

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. NUNN, Mr. DODD, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. FRIST) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 226

Whereas young people will be the stewards of our communities, nation, and world in critical times, and the present and future well-being of our society requires an involved, caring citizenry with good character;

Whereas concerns about the character training of children have taken on a new sense of urgency as violence by and against youth threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the nation;

Whereas, more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including schools, youth organizations, religious institutions and civic groups;

Whereas the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens;

Whereas the public good is advanced when young people are taught the importance of good character, and that character counts in